Culture Story

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A wise person once said that one stick could easily be broken because it lacks strength. But, a group of sticks, bundled together, cannot be broken because there is great strength in numbers. As a principal, my story is simple: I am just a stick that needs the strength of the bundle. My job is to tell the story of the bundle.

We all have come to this place in time from different points of view. We all have attitudes and beliefs that brought us to today. As we begin this year, fresh and new with nothing written on it yet, I want to share what I believe will positively change the future of each child at this school.

The culture of our school is an important piece of our schools future success. I believe that setting a vision for our school is critical. To set this vision, it will take parents, community members, teachers, administrators, staff and students coming together and creating a shared vision for our school’s future. This vision sets clear and compelling direction for improvement. We must identify what we collectively value as a school and know that everyone has a voice. This must be done to unify us, to provide coherence and reduce confusion.

The culture of our school is all about relationships. Building relationships and trust is critical. These relationships are between parents, teachers, staff, administrators, and students. When relationships are fostered and trust is built, then communication is opened, we work together collaboratively, everyone is engaged, teamwork is facilitated and everyone is about the business of continuous improvement. One way to do this is to share our stories and successes. We must celebrate our successes. My job is to be the chief story teller of this school as we strive to continuously improve what we do.

Our mission and goals need to be aligned. As we sit down to define our vision, I hope to open communication to know what each persons underlying assumptions and beliefs are. What drives what we do? Let’s align them and determine to all be rowing in the same direction. We may have to break old habits as we create new ones.

We must work together as a team. Because as that wise man said, when we work together, all going in the same directions, as a bundle, we have strength.